

Send comments on the Agency's need for this information, the accuracy of the provided burden estimates, and any suggested methods for minimizing respondent burden, including through the use of automated collection techniques to the addresses listed above. Please refer to EPA ICR No. 2015.01 in any correspondence.

Dated: November 20, 2001.

Oscar Morales,

Director, Collection Strategies Division.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7109-7]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Facility Ground-water Monitoring Requirements

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this document announces that the following Information Collection Request (ICR) has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval: "Reporting and Recordkeeping Requirements for Facility Ground-water Monitoring Requirements": OMB Control Number 2050-0033, expiration date November 30, 2001. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected burden and cost; where appropriate, it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before December 31, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Send comments, referencing EPA ICR No. 0959.11 and OMB Control No. 2050-0033, to the following addresses: Susan Auby, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Collection Strategies Division (Mail Code 2822), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001; and to Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Attention: Desk Officer for EPA, 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For a copy of the ICR contact Susan Auby at EPA by phone at (202) 260-4901, by E-Mail at auby.susan@epamail.epa.gov or download off the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/icr> and refer to EPA ICR

No. 0959.11. For technical questions about the ICR contact Sara Rasmussen by phone at 703-308-8399, by facsimile at (703) 308-8609, by mail at the Office of Solid Waste (5303W), United States Environmental Protection Agency, Ariel Rios Building, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Mailcode 5303W, Washington, DC 20460 or e-mail at rasmussen.sara@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Title:* Facility Ground-water Monitoring Requirements, OMB Control Number 2050-0033, EPA ICR Number 0959.11, expiration date November 30, 2001. This is a request for extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: This ICR examines the ground-water monitoring standards for permitted and interim status facilities at 40 CFR parts 264 and 165, as specified. The ground-water monitoring requirements for regulated units follow a tiered approach whereby releases of hazardous contaminants are first detected (detection monitoring), then confirmed (compliance monitoring), and if necessary, are required to be cleaned up (corrective action). Each of these tiers requires collection and analysis of ground-water samples. Owners or operators that conduct ground-water monitoring are required to report information to the oversight agencies on releases of contaminants and to maintain records of ground-water monitoring data at their facilities. The goal of the ground-water monitoring program is to prevent and quickly detect releases of hazardous contaminants to ground-water, and to establish a program whereby any contamination is expeditiously cleaned up as necessary to protect human health and environment. Subtitle C of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (RCRA) creates a comprehensive program for the safe management of hazardous waste. Section 3004 of RCRA requires owners and operators of facilities that treat, store, or dispose of hazardous waste to comply with standards established by EPA that are to protect the environment. Section 3005 provides for implementation of these standards under permits issued to owners and operators by EPA or authorized States. Section 3005 also allows owners and operators of facilities in existence when the regulations came into effect to comply with applicable notice requirements to operate until a permit is issued or denied. This statutory authorization to operate prior to permit determination is commonly known as "interim status." Owners and operators of interim status facilities also must comply with standards set under

section 3004. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control numbers for EPA's regulations are listed in 40 CFR part 9 and 48 CFR chapter 15. The **Federal Register** document required under 5 CFR 1320.8(d), soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on June 25, 2001 (66 FR 33579); no comments were received.

Burden Statement: The annual public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 118 hours per response. Burden means the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. This includes the time needed to review instructions; develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; adjust the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; train personnel to be able to respond to a collection of information; search data sources; complete and review the collection of information; and transmit or otherwise disclose the information.

Respondents/Affected Entities:

Entities that operate surface impoundments, waste piles, land treatment units, and landfills which manage hazardous waste regulated under RCRA.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 824.

Frequency of Response: Quarterly.

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 96,913.

Estimated Total Annualized Capital, O&M Cost Burden: 16,757,560.

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Dated: November 20, 2001.

Oscar Morales,

Director, Collection Strategies Division.

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